From: Christian Skeem
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/26/02 11:15am
Subject: Microsoft settlement

To Whom It May Concern

As a layman, I find it absurd that such an obvious case of "dumping" and anticompetitive behavior has not met with the severest form of punishment. If there is to be any lesson drawn from this expensive and exhaustive process, at this point the government seems content with letting it be "if you're rich enough and powerful enough, just let us slap your wrists and be on your way"! And please, just because a judge used poor judgment (pun intended), is no reason the U.S., nay the WORLD consumer should be punished and left without choice.

I admit to not knowing the fine points of the laws regarding monopolies and anticompetitive behavior, but it doesn't take an expert or a genius to figure out that if you use your leverage and your money to give an expensive piece of software away "free" (i.e. Internet Explorer), you are going to drive your competition (i.e. Netscape) out of business without much of a fight.

The internet is too important an arena to allow someone so blatantly anti-democratic and opportunistic as Bill Gates become (remain?) the dominant force.

ACT NOW! Appeasement of tyrants is rightly a concept consigned to infamy.

WAKE UP! When it's so obvious to a layman that the EMPEROR (the government) HAS NO CLOTHES! you may be able to sleep through this round, but this will come back to roundly bite us all in our collective naked ASSES!

DO SOMETHING!

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